



Kaleidoscope Board Meeting

Teleconference
March 13, 2025
6:02-7:12 p.m.

Kaleidoscope Mission

Kaleidoscope provides holistic support and engaging learning experiences to families through classes and community events.

Kaleidoscope Values

- We are inclusive
- We operate in a collegial spirit
- We embrace mutual respect
- We strive to embrace many educational philosophies

Board meeting called to order at 6:02 pm.

Board members present: Tim Rietz, Chris Amidon, Vicky Walters, Erin Barnett, Renata Sommerville

Board members not present: Sheri Werner

Staff Present: Erin Gregorcich, Roz Heidtke

Potential new board member, Roz Heidtke, was introduced.

1. Motion to approve November Board minutes pending correction of the month, by Chris Amidon. Second by Vicky Walters. Approved unanimously.

2. Action Item Review

A. Remaining Conflict of Interest statements to go out through dochub to Vicky and Erin; hard copies available at office.

B. Motion by Tim Reitz to appoint Roz Heidtke to the instructor position currently open on the Board, with a two year term. Second by Erin Barnett. Approved unanimously.

C. Board meetings will now be held on the second Thursday of the month.

D. Sheri Werner to be added to the Range Bank account.



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3. Director's Report by Erin Gregorcich. See below.

A. Review Notes from Hancock and L'Anse locations

B. Ongoing Programming

1. Open skating in L'Anse continues to be successful in bringing community members in and providing programming for members.

2. STEAM Saturdays is a new monthly event at the Hancock location. Events average 20 participants, with mostly community members. Presenters include skilled science and art presenters from the area.

3. Open houses will be held at Hancock and L'Anse locations at semester's end.

C. Grants

1. The Be Happy grant through Copper Shores Community Health Foundation has not brought in new members and will likely not be reapplied for. Vouchers for this program will be available through the summer.

2. Purchasing musical instruments with funds received from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council grant provides for the purchase of instruments is being planned. More information will be available at future meetings.

3. The Keweenaw Community Foundation grant for STEAM Saturdays has been successful and Kaleidoscope will reapply. Erin Barnett is now employed with KCF and will recuse herself from matters which present a conflict of interest.

4. Baraga Area Chamber of Commerce awarded funds to fund Kaleidoscope for art camp in 2024. We will request funds for the 2025 art camp as well.

D. CLK

1. Update to Requirements: Changes to our programming due to new requirements at the state and federal level: emphasis is now on attendance and number of hours spent on coursework, specific to virtual electives. Virtual electives must now have an hour requirement that matches in-person class time at a public school. Kaleidoscope is well-positioned to make this adjustment,



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although the required documentation process is still unclear. Erin Barnett will research the documentation process used by other facilities and report back. A request for CLK to provide to Kaleidoscope, in writing, what specific requirements they have for documentation of our program under the new state guidelines has been made. Also under the new state and federal regulations, all students in a district must have equal access to all programs. CLK is addressing the logistical issues this presents, and Kaleidoscope will make necessary adjustments as required. Also under the new regulations, solo learning options are not allowed. They will be replaced with "Hands On" classes that students will have the option to attend in person along with the virtual component of a class. Some restructuring of the process of purchasing supplies and reimbursing parents for class related materials will be required. Kaleidoscope will need CLK's requirements for this process prior to signing a new MOU for the upcoming school year. Kaleidoscope will reduce the amount of funding available to students per elective based on the increase in administrative duties these changes will require. Discussion of potential issues with a lack of accountability by CAPE regarding the way they disperse student funding and how this could affect Kaleidoscope in the future, and with Discovery Center's lack of accountability having students complete their virtual coursework. Chris A. suggested the Board meet with Dan Giacommo regarding these issues. Erin G. will address some of these issues at the upcoming MOU meeting. A proposal for a partnership with the L'Anse school district is in progress, though it has been delayed pending more clarification of the new state and federal guidelines, and may not be ready to present for the upcoming year. Vicky W. asked whether the partnership document could be more specific regarding standards all the partners would agree to meet.



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2. Registration: All registration dates have been set for the 2025/26 school year and are updated on the calendar on our website. Kaleidoscope has contracted with CLK to run registration again this year.

4. Meeting Schedule

a. Moving forward, meetings will be held in August, October, February, April, and June. If a meeting is missed it can be rescheduled to the following week, and, if necessary, additional meetings can be scheduled. Chris A. suggested that at least one of the meetings be in person. Board agrees that June is a good month for meeting in person.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a. The addition of Sheri Werner to Range Bank.
- b. Erin G. is closely monitoring Kaleidoscope financials to stay on budget.

6. Secretary's Report: none

7. Executive Director Search Plan

a. Discuss forming a committee, interviewing candidates, and potential start date at the April meeting.

8. Proposed Term Dates for Board Members

a. Motion by Chris Amidon to extend the administrative and instructor Board positions from two year to three year terms. Second by Renata Sommerville. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Next meeting will be held April 10 at 6:00 pm.

Director's Report

- **Notes from Kaleidoscope Hancock by Mallory White**
 - Hancock classes have been running well. Attendance has dropped off a little with semester 2 starting. We moved clubs to once a month, as the attendance for those was nearing very little. Snow days have taken out the last two or three! Steam Saturdays seem to be going well. Working on getting our summer and 2025/2026 classes together and tentatively scheduled. We have drama camp starting June 16 - Treasure Island this year - and I'm hoping for the same kind of attendance and turn out we had last year! That was a lot of fun.
- **Notes from Kaleidoscope L'Anse by Erin Lempkowski**
 - L'Anse classes and clubs are running smoothly.
 - Our winter events were mostly well attended: 24 partygoers came to Snow Much Fun, our annual winter celebration, and approximately 35 participants have been coming to Open Skating in the last handful of sessions. Tubing ended up with only 38 attendees (50 was the max), as many who had signed up got sick at the last minute and only one person from the waiting list was still available to come. There had been 14 people on the waiting list.
 - Plans for summer classes, clubs, and events are well underway. Battle of the Books and Art Camp are in the works once again, and we are planning to launch a new day camp, Around the World Camp.
 - Finally, we have a first draft of our Fall 2025 classes and clubs schedule and instructors are eager to try out a few new classes as well as continue teaching everyone's favorites.
- **Ongoing Programming**
 - Open Skating
 - [STEAM Saturdays](#)
 - Open Houses
- **Grants**
 - [Be Happy](#) (Copper Shores Community Health Foundation)
 - [Michigan Arts and Culture Council](#)
 - [Keweenaw Area Community Foundation](#)
 - Baraga Area Chamber of Commerce
- **CLK**
 - Update to requirements
 - 2025/26 Proposal being drafted
- **2025/26 Registration**